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CURRENT TOPICS

THE DOUBLE PARLIAMENTARY MANDATE

The present system of nominating members of the European Parliament - based on appointments by national parliaments or ministries - is entering into a crisis.

Considered from the beginning of the parliamentary Assembly as provisional, while awaiting the possibility of implementing the text of the Treaties providing for the election of parliamentarians by direct universal suffrage, this system is today proving increasingly inadequate.

Perhaps acceptable when the business of the European Parliament, and chiefly of the parliamentary Committees, proceeded at a more leisurely pace, the double mandate of European parliamentarians has given rise to comments which have caught the attention of the press and, hence, of public opinion.

Most recent is the statement by Senator Giraudo, chairman of the Political Affairs Committee, who decided to resign the chairmanship because he was too often prevented from attending meetings in Brussels by obligations in the Italian Senate. The press, above all in Germany, gave this development wide coverage : this was the first time in the history of the European Parliament that the chairman of the Political Affairs Committee - whose prominence in the context of a parliamentary assembly can easily be imagined - was obliged to give up his office owing to the heavy burden of his dual mandate.

In fact, a member wishing to attend all the plenary sessions and committee meetings of the European Parliament would have to devote altogether at least two weeks a month to these activities, including the time needed for the constant travelling. 'I am convinced', said Senator Giraudo, 'that the chairman of a parliamentary committee should be fully and unconditionally available for his European activities. If, instead, his national parliamentary mandate imposes insuperable limits and qualifications, it is his duty to make a choice'. As we said, Senator Giraudo's gesture elicited reactions in every member state, and especially in Italy where the President of the Senate and the Presidents of the CD group in the Senate and Chamber of Deputies assured the representatives directly concerned, and all CD members of the European Parliament, that a possible solution would be considered for the future.

On the basis of this commitment, and in response to the unanimous wish expressed by the chairman of the CD group in the European Parliament, Mr Lücker and the members of the Political Affairs Committee, Senator Giraudo withdrew his resignation : 'I hope', he said, ' to have rendered a service to all my colleagues who, like me, are faced with this problem'. 'The assurances given me by my Italian colleagues, Senator Fanfani and Senator Spagnolli (Chairman of the CD group in the Senate) lead me to hope', declared Senator Giraudo on resuming his seat on the Political Affairs Committee, 'that the case I have put will be a positive contribution, while awaiting implementation of the Treaty provisions on elections to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage to the prompt attainment of a real compatability between the two mandates of all the Members of the European Parliament.

SPEECH BY MR H.A. LÜCKER IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EEC AND THE USA

The Christian-Democratic Group in the European Parliament welcomed the initiatives taken by the United States through the statement made by President Nixon's chief advisor, Mr Kissinger. Such an initiative had been awaited for some time, since last year's Paris Summit Meeting had made recommendations to this effect and more particularly since President Nixon, in his message to the American Congress at the beginning of this year, had designated 1973 as the 'Year of Europe', now that problems in Asia had been overcome. These were the opening remarks by Mr Lücker, chairman of the Christian-Democratic Group in the European Parliament, in his speech on relations between the European Community and the United States of America, which were debated by the European Parliament at its May part-session in Strasbourg. Mr Lücker, speaking on behalf of his Group, opened the debate.

He stressed that the European Parliament was giving serious thought to the statement by Mr Kissinger who had himself made it clear that this statement was expressly authorized by the President of the United States. The Christian-Democratic Group interpreted Mr Kissinger's statement as an appeal by the American President to Europeans to find common answers to the challenges of a new epoch in world political developments. This epoch had three distinctive features:

- Firstly, that the bipolar situation of political superpowers had come to an end or at least was coming to an end, to be replaced by a multipolar world system.

- Secondly, that a situation of equality had been reached between the strategic military powers of East and West. This meant that the era of Western superiority in strategic and military power was drawing to a close, that we were approaching a situation of parity in this very important aspect of world politics and even, in fact, that we might, unless we were particularly vigilant, face the risk of seeing this parity transformed into superiority of the Eastern world, with all that this would mean for psychological and political equilibrium of our world.

- And finally, that the European Community and the United States of America would have to review and reorganize their relationship; this was a matter of particular concern to Europeans. The bitter experiences of recent years had shown that GATT, the International Monetary Fund and NATO - three fundamental elements in the machinery of cooperation, particularly between America and Europe - could no longer solve all the problems. For this reason,

new and improved machinery and instruments would have to be found in a two-way dialogue and in multilateral negotiations.

Mr Lücker stressed that this restructuring of the friendly relations between Europe and America called for certain sacrifices from all concerned, and not merely from Europeans; this would cause difficulties which would, however, have to be accepted on both sides of the Atlantic in a spirit of statesmanlike prudence, as Mr Kissinger had said. The moral values underlying the unity of the Western world and the fundamental identity of political aims were the bond uniting the two parties in an effective common policy. Mr Lücker said that the European Christian Democrats were ready to do their part in establishing this new relationship. They considered it vitally necessary to ensure a permanent dialogue, without which there could be no hope of coming closer to a solution of the problems.

The Christian Democrats were striving for a permanent Atlantic partnership, not between two unequal partners but between partners with equal rights. Mr Lücker stressed, however, his awareness of the fact that Europe was not completely independent in one very important matter, namely, defence. But this need not keep both sides from working together towards an equal partnership, in which Europe's keenly developed sense of world responsibility would play its proper role. This challenge would, of course, have to be met by correspondingly vigorous endeavours on our part. Europe could not silently shirk its world responsibilities, both because of its relations with the developing countries and of its special economic and commercial position in the world. Europeans would have to be prepared to make their own contribution to the security of their continent and thus to world peace. They must place all their creative powers in the service of this cause and join forces with responsible leaders in America to try to arrive at solutions through a permanent dialogue, which could then be given effect through appropriate practical measures.

Mr Lücker asked how this dialogue could be made as positive as possible on the European side. We had to acknowledge unfortunately that Europe did not yet speak with one voice, as it should, even though considerable progress had been made towards concerted action on common interests. In this context Mr Lücker pointed out that he appreciated the position of the United States, which in the past had always promoted the process of European economic and political unification by every means in its power, and he was glad that Mr Kissinger's statement made it clear that this support could also be relied upon in the future. He also appreciated the fact that the American Government through Mr Kissinger had reiterated its readiness to maintain an American military presence in Europe and its awareness of the necessity for this presence.

It was the contradictions of our own continent that caused Mr Lücker to look forward to the visit of the American President with such mixed feelings - contradictions between traditional national attitudes prevailing in all the capital cities of the European Community's Member States and the attitudes called for by our claim as Europeans to be a partner of the United States enjoying equal rights with it and bearing our share of responsibility for the world of tomorrow. If this claim were to be justified, we must first of all prepare ourselves to live up to it.

CHANGES IN THE DUTCH DELEGATION

The Dutch government has appointed Mr NOTENBOOM and Mr VAN DER SANDEN to replace Mr MOMMERSTEEG and Mr BROUWER who have been given ministerial posts.

Mr H. A. NOTENBOOM has already been a member of the European Parliament from 14 September 1971 to 13 March 1973.

Born on 31 August 1926, he was assistant secretary of the 'Nederlands Katholieke Middenstandsbond' from 1952 to 1955 and, from 1955 to 1968, director of the 'Katholieke Limburgse Middenstandsbond'.
He has been a member of the Second Chamber of the States-General since 1963.

Mr Pieter J.A. VAN DER SANDEN was born in 1924. He is a member of the Council of Europe's Consultative Assembly and of the WEU Assembly.
He is a journalist and secretary-general of the CPP in the Second Chamber. He has been a member of the Second Chamber since 1971.

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CHANGES IN THE IRISH DELEGATION

Mr Donal CREED has been appointed to the European Parliament in place of Mr Richie RYAN, T.D., who has become Minister of Finance in the new Irish government.
Mr CREED will sit on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and on the Committee on External Economic Relations of the European Parliament.

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FINAL STATEMENT AND POLITICAL RESOLUTION EEC-USA

After the meetings of the delegations of the US-Congress and the European Parliament a final statement was issued pointing out that, regardless of certain differences in opinion, the two parties agreed that they shared numerous common interests, which as a result of permanent consultation could become of particular significance.

A political resolution drawn up by the chairmen of the political groups was distributed in form of a reply to Mr. KISSINGER's speech.

JOINT STATEMENT

Members of the United States Congress and a Delegation of the European Parliament today concluded three days of discussions. Working sessions covered trade, agricultural, monetary and East-West questions. This was the third meeting of the delegations and the first since the enlargement of the European Community. Another session will be held in Washington later this year.

We are convinced that the United States and Europe share a profound common interest and destiny underlying our entire relationship. We must remind ourselves that the continuity through the years of these common interests is a most important linkage between the various issues we discussed.

The American participants obtained a renewed sense of the vigour of the European Community. Both sides stress the need for continuing review of our institutional relationship in order to prevent structures becoming outdated. The dynamism resulting from the enlarged Community will force changes in the Atlantic Community.

T r a d e

The importance of the forthcoming GATT negotiations in achieving freer trade was emphasised. The results of the negotiations will depend largely on the mandate that will be given on the one side by the Congress to the President of the US and on the other by the Council to the Commission of the European Community after consultation of the European Parliament. It is necessary that these mandates be given in due time and allow each party adequate freedom of movement.

The forthcoming negotiations should aim to consolidate and continue the liberalization of international trade on the basis of reciprocity and mutual advantage. They should also include the opportunities for the developing countries to participate in the expansion of world trade.

AGRICULTURE

The two delegations recognized that the farmers should share fully in the prosperity of their countries while adequate food supply and fair prices for producers and consumers are maintained. In order to achieve steady growth of agricultural trade in a stable world market, international agreements, in particular, specific agreements for certain commodities are needed to set minimum and maximum price levels taking into account production targets corresponding to a real demand. These agreements should provide for storage of reserved stocks, with the cost sharing to be agreed upon, and the stocks to be made available to countries with severe food shortages. A minority held the view that farm prices should be allowed to move more freely, and incomes of farmers be subsidized by their respective governments.

Recognizing certain differences between the structural problems of European and U.S. agriculture, the American participants expressed understanding of the present social basis for the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC. Both sides recognized that problems in their respective agricultural policies must be faced in order to help create, by reciprocal adjustments, a better equilibrium of world markets.

MONETARY REFORM

Both sides viewed the present floatation of exchange rates as acceptable under prevailing circumstances. There was agreement on the need for a long-term solution to the problem with special drawing rights in the centre of the new system. Difference of approach arose, however, concerning the urgency of taking early measures. Some called for immediate action, while others expressed confidence that the short run, controlled floatation will be effective in improving the United States' balance of payments. The European Community goal of economic and monetary union as confirmed by the Paris Summit in October 1972, was welcomed by both delegations as being of the utmost importance in this context.

ENERGY POLICY

Taking note of the expanding international demands for energy and of the balance of payments problems this poses, the two Delegations agreed to urge a new cooperative relationship among the major energy-consuming nations. Objectives of the relationships should include development of new and expanded sources of energy, minimizing damage to environment by the production and consumption of energy acquiring adequate reserves of certain forms of energy, and avoiding waste of energy.

EAST-WEST RELATIONS

While recognizing the limitations imposed by the Treaty of Rome, the delegations discussed East-West relations, and respective defence policies in the light of the forthcoming talks on security and cooperation in Europe and on mutual and balanced force reductions.

There were frank differences expressed concerning United States troop levels in Europe and on burden sharing within NATO. The European members emphasized the considerable improvements made in their defence efforts in recent years. While recognizing these developments, the Americans explained the political, budgetary, and balance of payments considerations behind that American public opinion which seeks United States troop reductions in Europe.

Both delegations agreed that adequate American defence forces should be maintained in Europe. The exact size and composition of these forces should be the subject of careful scrutiny by NATO.

Both delegations welcomed the joint approach which the EEC nations have adopted in the preparatory talks in Helsinki, which are facilitating closer co-operation with the United States in these discussions. They stressed the need for parallel progress in the Conference of European Security at the talks on mutual and balanced force reductions in Vienna.

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Resolution

The European Parliament,

- Having noted the positions recently adopted by the American authorities on a new direction for relations between the Community and the United States,

- Aware of the importance of this problem for the future development of the European Community,

- Referring to paragraph 7 of the preamble to the declaration of the Paris Conference of Heads of State or Government stating that: 'The construction of Europe will allow it, in conformity with its ultimate political objectives to affirm its personality while remaining faithful to its traditional friendships and to the alliances of the Member States, and to establish its position in world affairs as a distinct entity, determined to promote a better international equilibrium, respecting the principles of the Charter of the United Nations...'

1) Declares its conviction that the Community has worldwide rather than merely regional responsibilities;

2) Instructs its appropriate Committees to report to it at an early date on all the problems raised by these questions.

6th General Report of the Communities

The European Parliament examined the 6th General Report on the activities of the Communities in 1972 on 9 May at Strasbourg, on the basis of a report by Mr SEEFELD (socialist, Germany).

This important debate gave all the speakers an opportunity to emphasize that, with the accession of the new member states and the Paris Summit, the Communities passed a major turning point in 1972.

The spokesman of the Christian-Democratic group in this debate was Mr BERTRAND (Belgium). He said that he did not wish to become overinvolved in a debate in which considerable time was taken up by the discussion of events of the past year.

It was impossible, remarked Mr BERTRAND, to hold a genuine political debate on the General Report, which was nothing more than an historical reflection of the activities of the Community institutions in the previous year. Moreover, under the present system the past year's activities were not discussed until May, while the Parliament already debated in February the Commission's programme for the current year.

Mr BERTRAND therefore suggested procedural changes so that the debate could be directed towards the future and not the past and appropriate lessons drawn from previous shortcomings.

Article 18 of the Merger Treaty, which lays down the procedure for the General Report, must therefore be amended. Pending this reform, it should however be possible, with the agreement of the other institutions, to organize a major political debate in Parliament, in which all the institutions (Parliament, Commission,Council) would participate, so as to highlight the principal trends of general policy.

This debate could, for example, take place in the framework of the budgetary discussion, i.e. in October.

It was illogical that the General Report should cover the activities of all the European institutions but be presented only by the Commission.

Mr BERTRAND therefore asked the Parliament to do all it could to ensure that this important reform came into force before the discussion of the 7th General Report.

This was the only way, he said in conclusion,in which public opinion could become closely interested in the activities of the European Parliament.

ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS OF THE CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATIC GROUP IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

At a meeting of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, Mr PETRE acted as rapporteur in an exchange of views on the memorandum from the Commission on its activities pursuant to the resolution adopted by the European Parliament on 21 September 1971 concerning migrant workers.

Mr FRÜH submitted to the Committee on Agriculture a draft opinion for the Committee on Development and Cooperation on the proposal for a Council regulation on the system applicable to imports of a certain quantity of raw sugar originating in the Associated African States and Madagascar.

Mr JAHN acted as draftsman for the Political Affairs Committee for a draft opinion on the Community's relations with the USSR and Comecon.

Mr BRUGGER acted as rapporteur for the Legal Affairs Committee in its consideration of the proposed amendments to Mr PINTUS's report on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation embodying a statute for the European company.

The Committee on Development and Cooperation discussed with representatives of the European Commission Mr DEWULF's draft report on the activities of the second European Development Fund.

Mr McDONALD submitted to the Committee on Agriculture a draft report on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation No. 121/67/EEC concerning the establishment of the price of slaughtered pigs in the Community.

Mr PETRE participated as rapporteur in the work of the Committee on Budgets on the communications from the Commission to the Council on the Community energy policy programme for future years.
He subsequently presented a draft opinion for the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology.

Mr DEWULF put two written questions to the Commission of the European Communities on the extent to which the diplomatic representatives of Member States in third countries are kept informed of developments and on the stage reached by the Council in its consideration of the Commission's proposal on arrangements for imports of natural vanilla from Madagascar.

NEWS ITEMS

C - D MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN THE NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT

The new Dutch government, eventually formed after five months of crisis, has drawn widely on Members of the European Parliament. Two Members of the Christian-Democratic Group have joined the new Cabinet.

TIEMEN BROUWER, chairman of the European Parliament's Legal Affairs Committee, is the new Minister of Agriculture. Born in Theden in 1916, he is a secondary school teacher and has been President of the Haarlem Association for Agriculture and Horticulture since 1966. He has been a Member of the Second Chamber of the States-General since 1959 and secretary of the Parliamentary group of the Catholic People's Party since 1963.

J. A. MOMMERSTEEG, member of the European Parliament since 1971 and of the Second Chamber since 1963, becomes Secretary of State for Defence. Born in 1917, he is a Doctor of Laws, journalist and editor, and has been a member of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe and of the Assembly of the Western European Union.

EUROPE AND THE MONETARY CRISIS

At the opening ceremony of the 55th Lyons International Fair, Mr Alain POHER, President of the French Senate, commented on the future of the European Community in the light of the recent monetary crisis.

'We have avoided the worst', said Mr POHER. 'The monetary damage which might have been done by a policy of "every man for himself" or "sauve qui peut" has been averted by serious thought on the part of all concerned. But the monetary war has only just started.

A clearly defined joint strategy to deal with the dollar and with the monetary system is necessary for the attainment of European monetary union,

which in turn is the key to any true economic expansion. This means that we must not only be united in our views but must also have the strength to resist pressure from outside the European Community.

Such action is possible: what we need is to speed up implementation of the economic and monetary union and, at the same time, to give Europe the possibility of speaking with a single voice at international gatherings in coming months. This will be brought about by strengthening the Community institutions, which have on many occasions been too weak, or too technocratic to form a real European executive, in the true sense of the word. I am worried most of all by the fact that even though the reality of Europe is generally affirmed, national interests usually still take precedence.'

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

At its meeting in Brussels on 16 April 1973, the Committee on Public Health and the Environment heard a statement by Mr Carlo SCARASCIA MUGNOZZA on the European Commission's programme on environmental matters.

The Vice-President of the Commission gave the members of the parliamentary committee a detailed description of the measures to be taken for environmental protection in coming years. Sir Anthony ESMONDE raised the problem of pulmonary diseases and spoke of pollution as an international problem.

Mr H. A. JAHN congratulated Commissioner SCARASCIA MUGNOZZA on the completeness of the document and on the fact that it referred explicitly to consumer protection. He insisted that more frequent and formal contacts should be established with the various consumer organizations.

MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

At a meeting of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, Professor Giuseppe VEDOVATO (C-D, Italy) was re-elected President for a further period of one year. The agenda of this meeting, held in Strasbourg from 14 to 18 May included the question of relations between Western Europe and the United States and the problem of international terrorism.

The Christian-Democratic Group in the Consultative Assembly also elected its own chairman in the person of Mr Franz AMREHN (Christian-Democratic Union, Germany), who replaces Mr Hubert LEYNEN (Christian Social Party, Belgium).

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES : A EUROPEAN PROBLEM

by Dr. H. WALZ x)

The recent Dutch law on correspondence courses has drawn public attention to a problem which has since assumed European importance. France, too, has enacted a law on correspondence courses; the situation in Germany is explained in this article by Dr. Walz.

I. Political background

The CDU/CSU has given education policy high political priority. No action could be expected from the Government - totally involved in its plan for educational reform which has failed to get off the ground.

II. The Correspondence Course situation

In September 1972 the Council of Europe held a symposium in Bad Godesberg at which a recommendation was adopted calling on the governments of Member States to regulate correspondence courses. Several years ago an organ of the Council of Europe, the European Council for Correspondence Courses, drew up a code of ethics for correspondence colleges. France has a law regulating correspondence courses containing very stringent requirements with regard to the reputability of colleges. Holland also has one, while in Austria several educational organizations called for such a law at the end of 1972.

In the Federal Republic the demand for a federal outline law has grown more and more insistent over the last few years. It has come mainly from the Arbeitskreis korrektes Fernlehrwesen AKF in Stuttgart (to which a number of reputable correspondence colleges belong) and from the DGB at its federalcongress in Berlin. Similar views have been expressed by the Aktion Bildungsinformation (Action Group for educational information) in Stuttgart, whose commendable concern for the interests of correspondence college students who have not been fairly dealt with is recognized throughout the Republic.

III. The Problem

The protection of the correspondence course student and the reputability of correspondence courses in the Federal Republic leave much

to be desired. Admittedly there is the Staatliche Zentralstelle (der Länder) für Fernunterricht (ZFU),(the State Centre(of the Länder) for Correspondence Course Instruction) established in Cologne in 1970 by State Treaty, and the Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildungsforschung (BBF), (the Federal Institute for Vocational Training Research) in Berlin; neither of the latter can ex officio examine correspondence courses in respect of the quality of their teaching. They can only do so at the instance of a correspondence college.

Added to this there is the unedifying dispute over jurisdiction between the ZFU and the BBF, which on the one hand is founded on the responsibility of Länder for vocational school final examinations and on the other on the responsibility of the Federation (Commercial Law, Section 74 No. 11GG) for the active side of vocational education (dual system!); this has resulted in the BBF and the ZFU disputing jurisdiction over vocational correspondence courses leading up to a State examination.

The main concern of the initiative, however, remains the creation of a responsible attitude in the correspondence course sector, involving in particular, such things as a ban on the employment of sales representatives, student protection in the widest sense and the possibility of State sanctions in the case of offences.

IV. The Solution

is an outline law of the Federation, especially since instruction by correspondence cannot, by definition, be regulated by individual state law. There may of course be some resistance to this development from the Länder, which are reluctant to give up any more of their powers in the cultural sector. The text, however, grants the ZFU and consequently the Länder sufficiently wide powers to satisfy the latter, especially as the Leader of the ZFU, Mr Haagman and Mr Schmoll, who has been looking after instruction by correspondence for 20 years in Mr Vogel's Ministry of Culture, have both collaborated from the very beginning on the draft law. Since previous jurisprudence, the mood at the Council of Europe (the symposium) and last but not least the DGB also call for a law on correspondence colleges, the initiative should actually have a good chance of success. For the purpose of its implementation, the distribution of powers in this area stipulated in the basic law would have to be reviewed.

The Federation renounces its rival responsibility for supervision

of vocational correspondence course instruction and receives in return general jurisdiction over all correspondence course instruction; the Länder give up their sole responsibility for general, cultural and recreational correspondence instruction, and receive in return by virtue of the outline law practical supervisory powers in respect of all correspondence course instruction including the vocational side. In this way a fair balance is struck which does not disturb the principles of the federal structure of the Federal Republic.

The Research Department of the Bundestag and Professor Mikat, the legal spokesman of the CDU, examined the initiative from the point of view of constitutionality and after minor alterations judged it to be in accordance with the constitution.

V. The Method

In the matter of overall jurisdiction, an insertion must be made in the Basic Law. The most natural place for it would be Section 75, where the High School Outline Law was also incorporated.

The actual Correspondence College Outline Law would be drafted on this basis. In addition, in order to preserve conceptual uniformity and as a consequence of the existing overall jurisdiction of the Federation, this competing jurisdiction, according to Para 60 (4) of the Berufsbildungsgesetzes (BBiG) (the Vocational Training Law) must be removed and the new requirements of the Correspondence College Outline Law, also taken account of in the BBiG. The initiative thus comprises a whole 'package': amendment of the basic law, a correspondence college outline law and amendment of the vocational training law.

VI. Political Consequences

The mood is generally favourable to such a law. The television series 'The C.I.D. Advises' has already looked into the practices of correspondence colleges. Above all, the 300,000 correspondence college students must at long last be protected against these irresponsible promotion methods.

x) Dr Hanna WALZ (German/CD Party) was born in Templin (Uckersmarck). First degree in jurisprudence, statecraft and political science; from 1940-43 Assistant at the University of Berlin. After the war she worked in Stuttgart on the editorial staff of the DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT and from 1950-54 was librarian at the Ecumenical Church Council in Geneva. Since 1956 she has been on the local Council in Fulda; since 1958 she has been a member of the Regional Managing Committee and of the Hessen Diet and since 1962 a member of the CDU Party Committee. Since 1967 she has been deputy regional chairman of the Hessen CDU party and regional chairman of the Hessen Evangelical Working Party of the CDU.